

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A transportation system for allowing a wheeled vehicle to run on its wheels between stations via a track structure formed as a pair of parallel tracks, the transportation system comprising an acceleration zone for accelerating the wheeled vehicle by propulsion supply means provided in the vicinity of the station, and an autonomous traveling zone for allowing the wheeled vehicle accelerated in said acceleration zone to travel on its wheels along the track structure in an autonomous manner without said propulsion supply means, and

a gravity detector for detecting a direction of gravity applied to a seat disposed in the vehicle, and a seat posture controller for controlling a posture of said seat relative to a floor of the vehicle in accordance with an output of said gravity detector.

wherein said propulsion supply means is a linear-type accelerator for accelerating the wheeled vehicle by providing a propulsion force from a first magnet located on the track to a second magnet mounted on the wheeled vehicle.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said propulsion supply means provided in the vicinity of one of the stations is said linear-type accelerator, and said propulsion supply means provided in the vicinity of the other station is a coaster-type accelerator comprising a single auxiliary track disposed between the pair of parallel tracks and formed at an uphill gradient in the vicinity of the station, and a lifter for lifting the vehicle on said single auxiliary track, which is provided such that when the wheeled vehicle lifted on said single auxiliary track is released, it is accelerated by gravitation.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the vehicle has a flat floor designed in a barrier free manner.

7. (Currently amended) A transportation system having a rail structure formed as a pair of parallel tracks and extending between stations, and a wheeled vehicle movable on said rail structure via the wheels of the vehicle and carrying drive means, the transportation system comprising a first zone for accelerating the wheeled vehicle from a stopped condition to a required speed by a propulsion force supplied from propulsion supply means located from one of the stations toward the other station by a predetermined distance, and a second zone not having said propulsion supply means, in which the wheeled vehicle accelerated in the first zone travels on said rail by a propulsion force supplied from said drive means, and

a gravity detector for detecting a direction of gravity applied to a seat disposed in the vehicle, and a seat posture controller for controlling a posture of said seat relative to a floor of the vehicle in accordance with an output of said gravity detector.

wherein said propulsion supply means is a linear-type accelerator for accelerating the wheeled vehicle by providing a propulsion force from a fixed magnet located along said rail structure to a movable magnet mounted on the wheeled vehicle.

8. (Previously Presented) The transportation system as set forth in claim 7, wherein said drive means comprises a drive wheel driven by a motor mounted on the wheeled vehicle, and a single auxiliary rail formed in said second zone in parallel with said rail structure and disposed between the pair of parallel tracks such that said drive wheel travels thereon.